

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 00914 212012Z

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /017 W
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R 211606Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8953

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

UNCLAS MOSCOW 0914

STATE FOR EUR/SOV, CU/ARTS, USIA FOR IEU, LENINGRAD FOR P&C

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJ: EXHCANGES: CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS (CU/ARTS): NEW YORK
PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA (NYPO)

REF: MOSCOW 474, MOSCOW 0607

1. IN JANUARY NINETEEN MEETING, GOSK DIRECTOR SUPAGIN TOLD EMBOFF THAT RECEPTION OF NYPO PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER SIX IMPOSSIBLE. HE EMPHASIZED VACATIONS FOR HALL PERSONNEL (SEE REFTEL) BUT ADDED THAT NO AMERICAN IMPRESSARIO WOULD ACCEPT SOVIET ORCHESTRA "OUT OF SEASON" AND THAT ENTIRE PROPOSED NYPO TOUR IS OUT OF SEASON. GOSK'S FINAL OFFER IS ARRIVAL LENINGRAD SEPTEMBER SIX, FREE DAY SEPTEMBER SEVEN, PREMIER SEPTEMBER EIGHT, CONCERTS SEPTEMBER NINE, TEN, ELEVEN, TRAVEL MOSCOW SEPTEMBER TWELVE, FREE DAY SEPTEMBER THIRTEEN. MOSCOW CONCERTS SEPTEMBER FOURTEEN, FIFTEEN, SIXTEEN, SEVENTEEN AND RETURN U.S. SEPTEMBER EIGHTEEN.

2. SUPAGIN REMARKED THAT ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-SEVEN WAS NOT "NORMAL" ORCHESTRA SIZE AND THAT HE SUSPECTED MANY WIVES MIGHT BE TRAVELING WITH GROUP. THIS UNACCEPTABLE, HE SAID AND HE WOULD NEVER SIGN A CONTRACT INCLUDING WIVES, OR OTHER NON-PROFESSIONALS. EMBOFF POINTED OUT THAT IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH FORMER AMBASSADOR MANN, SUPAGIN HIMSELF HAD INSISTED MANN PAY COST OF ROUND TRIP TRANSPORTATION AND LODGING FOR WIFE OF COMPOSER TIKHON KHRENNIKOV DURING UP-
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COMING U.S. VISIT. SUPAGIN FLUSHED, RAISED VOICE, STRUCK

TABLE AND REPEATED THAT HE WOULD NEVER SIGN SUCH A CONTRACT AND WIFE WOULD NOT BE PART OF MANN CONTRACT. EMBOFF ASKED IF THIS NEW POLICY AND SUPAGIN REPLIED IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN THIS WAY. WHILE SUPAGIN'S EMOTIONAL RESPONSE THIS ISSUE DETERRED OUR POINTING OUT THAT ROY CLARK' WIFE WAS INCLUDED IN CONTRACT SUPAGIN HAD SIGNED, EMBOFF WILL RAISE THIS ISSUE AT FUTURE MEETING IF APPROPRIATE. PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER NYPO WILL INCLUDE WIVES OF CONDUCTORS OR OTHERS AND ANY OTHER NON-PROFESSIONALS.

3. SUPAGIN OFFERED DOLLARS ONE THOUSAND AND RUBLES ONE THOUSAND PER CONCERT AND SAID THIS SAME AS SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY. EMBOFF POINTED TO INCREASE IN COSTS SINCE 1973 SFPO VISIT. SUPAGIN SUGGESTED THAT SINCE PRICES FIXED IN SOVIET UNION AND INFLATION DOES NOT EXIST, RUBLES REMAIN AT ONE THOUSAND WHILE DOLLARS WOULD BE ALLOWED TO RISE AT SAME RATE AS INFLATION IN PERIOD SINCE 1973. IN ABSENCE OF HARD FIGURES HE OPINED RESULT SUCH CALCULATION WOULD INCREASE DOLLARS TO THIRTEEN HUNDRED PER CONCERT. EMBOFF POINTED TO COST DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NYPO AND SFPO AND SUPAGIN REQUESTED FIGURES. EMBOFF WILL PRESENT DECEMBER TWENTY-ONE, 1975 COPY NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE PAGES ONE AND THIRTY-SIX CONTAINING THIS INFO AT NEXT MEETING.

4. SUPAGIN REVEALED THAT ORCHESTRA SALARIES NEVER PART OF GOSK BUDGET AS THESE COVERED BY ORCHESTRA. BEST SOVIET ORCHESTRAS RECEIVED DOLLARS FIVE THOUSAND PER CONCERT IN U.S. BUT THEY MUST COVER ROOM, BOARD AND TRANSPORTATION TO U.S., WHICH MUST BE BY AEROFLOT. (EMBOFF SUGGESTION GOSK CHARTER CHEAPER U.S. PLANE MET WITH LAUGHTER AND REFERENCE TO POOR SERVICES SPCO/ROY CLARK.) HE CLAIMED AEROFLOT TRANSPORTATION COSTS WERE RUBLES FORTY THOUSAND FOR PERSONNEL AND RUBLES TWENTY-THOUSAND FOR PROPERTIES AS AEROFLOT DOES NOT HAVE SPECIALGROUP RATE. HE FIGURED U.S. EXPENSES PER PERSON AT DOLLARS THIRTY TO THIRTY-FIVE PER DAY, THUS ONE HUNDRED MAN ORCHESTRA WOULD PAY OUT DOLLARS THREE THOUSAND TO THIRTY-FIVE HUNDRED PER DAY AND REALIZED ONLY DOLLARS FIFTEEN HUNDRED TO TWO THOUSAND PER CONCERT FROM DOLLARS FIVE THOUSAND TO TWO THOUSAND PER CONCERT FROM DOLLARS FIVE THOUSAND PER CONCERT FEE IF IT UNCLASSIFIED

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CONCERTIZES EVERY DAY OF TOUR.

5. SUPAGIN SAID HIS OFFER ABOVE INCLUDED ROOM AND BOARD IN SOVIET UNION AND RETURN TRANSPORT TO U.S. AND WOULD RESULT IN MASSIVE GOSK SUBSIDY TO U.S. GROUP. HIS ACCOUNTING IS RUBLES SEVENTY THOUSAND FOR RETURN FLIGHT, BOARD RUBLES SEVEN PER DAY AND ROOM ABOUT RUBLES TWENTY PER DAY PER MEMBER FOR TWELVE DAYS (27 X 12 X 127) EQUALS RUBLES FORTY-ONE

THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FORTY-EIGHT. MAXIMUM GOSK CAN REALIZE
PER CONCERT IS RUBLES TWO THOUSAND OR SIXTEEN THOUSAND FOR
TOUR. THUS, HE SAID, GOSK WOULD BE IN DEBT RUBLES NINETY-FIVE
THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FORTY-EIGHT BEFORE IT PAYS ANY FEE
TO NYPO.

6. SUPAGIN'S EXTENSIVE PRESENTATION OF FIGURES REQUIRES
VERIFICATION AND EMB URGENTLY REQUESTS EARLY DEPT. ACTION
REQUEST MADE REFTEL. PLEASE ADVISE DEPT. POSITON ON FEE
OFFERED.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW00914
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760024-0195
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760137/aaaabgwy.tel
Line Count: 126
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MOSCOW 474, 76 MOSCOW 607
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2004 by schwenja>; APPROVED <12 JAN 2005 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXHCANGES: CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS (CU/ARTS): NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA (NYPO)
TAGS: OEXC, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006